

FARM and GROVE

Agricultural News Service
Extension Division U. of F.
(or University of Florida.)

FLORIDA DOUBLY INVADED

Two Species of Army Worms Eating State's Vegetation

Two species of caterpillars called army worms—the fall army worm, or grass worm, and the semi-tropical army worm—are now at work in the state. The fall army worm has been found by the county agents and J. R. Watson, entomologist to the University of Florida experiment station, as far south as Sanford, but this species has done most of its damage from Gainesville northward. It feeds chiefly on grasses, but when these fail, will attack almost any crop.

The fall army worm is a long, slender, green worm with conspicuous yellow lines running lengthwise of the body. These worms completed their growth and entered the ground late in July, but, unless controlled by parasites, a new brood will soon appear. The ravages of this new brood should begin to be noticeable about the middle of August. Since this worm can best be controlled by a poisoned bait, the farmer should prepare now to fight it by laying in a supply of bran, paris green and syrup.

To make this bait, mix together thoroughly 20 pounds bran, 5 pounds cottonseed meal, and 1 pound paris green. Then grate or chop finely, rind, pulp and all, 3 or 4 lemons into 2 1-2 gallons of

water. Dampen the dry bran and paris green mixture with this liquid until the whole mass is moist but not sloppy. It should be of such consistency that it will fall in fine flakes when sown broadcast. Last of all, kneed into the mixture 2 quarts of molasses or syrup. This should be thoroughly worked into the mash.

Instead of the mixture of bran and cottonseed meal, bran alone can be used. If wheat bran cannot be obtained, barley or rice bran may be substituted. Bitter molasses such as New Orleans, stale bran or meal, should not be used in making this bait. Make up the bait fresh each day. The amount provided by the foregoing formula should be sufficient for a field of four or five acres.

Poisoned bait should be put out either in the evening or early morning so that it will not dry too quickly. In the evening would be better, as the caterpillars would have longer to feed on it before it becomes dry.

The semi-tropical army worm is operating in the southern part of the state. Colonies have been found as far north as Gainesville and Jacksonville, but most of the damage has been done farther south. The broods of this caterpillar are a week or ten days behind those of the fall army worm. But unless controlled by parasites the young caterpillars will soon be noticeable.

This insect prefers sweet potatoes, castor beans and cotton, and most of the eggs are laid on these plants. On sweet potatoes they are best controlled by the poisoned bait, but on taller plants, such as cotton and castor beans, a dust will work more efficiently. Powdered lead arsenate is usually the most readily available. This,

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mixed with air-slacked lime, should be dusted on the plants with a dusting machine in the early morning when the plants are wet with dew.

Watch for Hog Cholera

Florida farmers know what hog cholera is. Some have bought the knowledge at a dear price. The disease is a deadly one, and prevention is better than the cure. The University of Florida extension division emphasizes the importance of keeping the hog runs clean and the sleeping quarters dry and well ventilated. Indeed, there are very few swine ailments that can not be avoided by the practice of sanitation and cleanliness.

Always avoid infection from outside sources. Cholera germs are often introduced into hog lots on the feet of dogs, birds, and other animals, and visiting neighbors. Running streams may carry the disease, or it may be washed on to the farm with drainage water in heavy rains.

When cholera is once introduced into a herd, sanitation and cleanliness will not stop it. The only remedy then is timely vaccination with reliable anti-hog-cholera serum. Vaccination will not only save the hogs not yet infected, but it stops the development of the disease, and by carefully burning dead hogs and cleaning up and disinfecting the premises, the contagion may be prevented from spreading to other farms, and thus be stamped out.

If your herd shows any signs of the disease, call your county agent or a reliable veterinarian at the earliest opportunity.

SPROUT FALL POTATO SEED

A Better Stand With Less Disease May Then Result

A number of farmers plant Irish potatoes as a fall crop to be used for food, and a few use them for spring planting. The best seed for the fall planting is to be had from native stock, for they are acclimated. The northern grown potato is not the best for the summer planting because, as C. K. McQuarrie of the University of Florida extension division says, the soil is too hot for them and they rot readily, when subject to conditions which differ radically from those under which they were grown. Even where the spring crop was grown from imported seed, potatoes produced from that crop have acquired a small degree of resistance. In fact, the spring crop is a very good source for seed.

It is best to select small potatoes from the size of a hen's egg down for the fall crop and to plant them whole. It is well also to sprout the potatoes before planting. Place them on a barn floor, or in some other sheltered place, where they will have diffused light but not direct sunlight. Allow the sprouts to become a quarter to a half inch long. Then when the potatoes are planted

they will continue growing and the loss from rotting will be reduced to a minimum.

Mr. McQuarrie warns against buying just any kind of potatoes for seed. Some farmers obtain their seed from the groceryman's stock of eating potatoes. As a rule, these are not good potatoes and should be avoided, first, because they are of unknown strain and have not been cared for as seed potatoes should be, and, also, because they may not be acclimated to the region in which they are to be planted. Some of the best seed potatoes for Florida are the red bliss or triumph, rose number four, cobbler and Look-out Mountain. The last two named have done particularly well in Florida.

Use Airslacked Lime

Use air-slacked lime as a disinfectant around the stables, sheds and yards. This will kill the contagion of hog cholera and the germs of other infectious diseases if used liberally, says the University of Florida extension division. Spread freely about the sleeping quarters and feeding places of hogs, air-slacked lime will tend to destroy germs of pneumonia and help to keep the pigs free from intestinal worms by destroying the worm eggs in the droppings. Lime will also prevent or reduce the breeding of flies in manure and gives cleaner and better smelling premises.

More farm work can be done in a day with a given amount of man labor by using more horse power and larger implements. It is one way to meet the labor shortage.

The margin of profit on the average farm is too small to permit the farmer to keep an unprofitable animal. Cull out the drones and undesirables.

Every farm should be made to produce enough food for the family and the animals. It will be necessary to make plans for the crops a short time ahead.

Florida annually produces 15,000,000 gallons of milk, which fact goes to show that Florida is very much adapted to dairying.

Seminole county rolled up a vote of approximately nine to one in favor of compulsory dipping of cattle at their election last week.

Internal revenues for the District of Florida collected for July amounted to \$544,650.71, or three times the amount collected in July, 1917.

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NOTICE OF MEETING OF EQUALIZATION BOARD

The assessment roll for 1918 has been submitted to the Council. The Council will meet, Aug. 27th, 1918, at 7 p. m., at City Hall, for the purpose of equalizing the assessment and making proper corrections. All persons desiring to have corrections made thereof, whether in the listing, valuation of the property, or otherwise, are required to file with the Tax Assessor on or before Aug. 27th, 1918, petition to Town Council, setting forth their objections to said assessment and the corrections which they desire made. All petitions for corrections of assessments shall be made upon and in compliance with petitions to be furnished upon application by the Town of Punta Gorda, and shall comply with all reasonable requirements made by ordinance. The public will have access to the assessment roll at the office of the Tax Assessor during each day, Sunday excepted, from 8 a. m. until 5 p. m., excepting between the hour of twelve and one, for the purpose of examining the same and preparing petitions for the corrections thereof. By order of the Town Council.—L. E. ROBINSON, Clerk. 33-24

Burma is one of the very few lands in which fat is not used for lighting or industrial purposes.



Speculators who buy oranges and grapefruit do so at prices which they expect to yield them large profits.

These men, producing nothing, generally succeed in selling the fruit they handle at prices which enable them to make more than do the growers whose money and labor has been invested in raising it.

The members of the Florida Citrus Exchange, feeling that they are capable of marketing their own crops, have organized to do just this, on a co-operative plan, which puts in their own pockets the profits which otherwise would go to the speculators.

If you would like to have your good fruit sold for all that it is worth, getting for yourself all that it brings less a fair selling charge and knowing just what the figures are, you should join the Exchange, which guarantees all this to its membership. For full particulars address Florida Citrus Exchange, Citizens Bank Bldg., Tampa, Fla., or call on

**A. ZIEGLER, Manager DeSoto
County Citrus Sub-Exchange
Arcadia, Fla.**

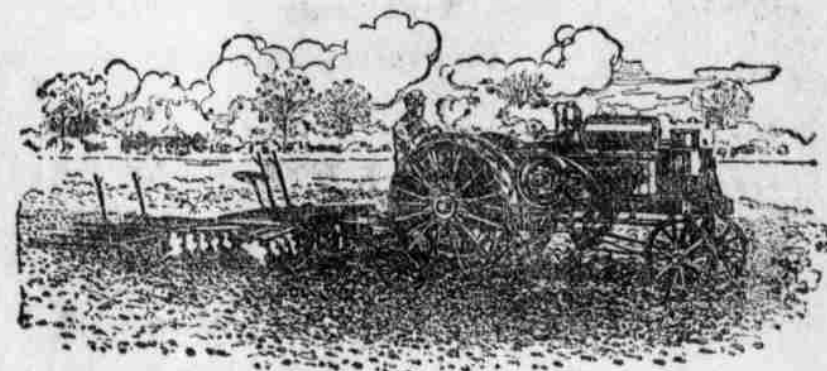
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